(c) whether these proposals have been contemplated upon in the meeting of the Core Group; if so, the recommendations made by the Group; and

(d) by when the above said project will be accorded sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes Sir, the Government of Rajasthan had submitted proposals for correction of system deficiencies of 36 distribution systems of Chambal Project.

(b) and (c) The total estimated cost and culturable command area covered by these systems were Rs. 56.16 crore and 1.42 lakh hectare respectively. The proposals were considered by the Core Group of Ministry of Water Resources for approval of CAD proposals, in its 13th meeting held on 23rd August, 2006.

(d) The State Government officials were advised by the Core Group to give priority to those distributaries where Command Area Development (CAD) works have already been completed. The Core Group also felt that in the absence of rehabilitation of the main and branch canals, correction of deficiencies in the distributaries only may not serve useful purpose and therefore, the distributaries on the head of which full supply discharge is assured should only be taken up for correction. It further observed that only those minors/distributaries shall be considered where WUAs have been formed under the participation of Farmers in the Management of Irrigation Systems Act, 2002 of Rajasthan and not under Cooperative Societies Act. The State Government was also advised to give assurance that the systems shall be handed over to the WUAs elected under the above mentioned Act. The State Government was advised to send a list of proposals on those distributaries which fulfil the above conditions.

The clearance of the project will depend upon the promptness with which the State Government replies to the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies.

Maintenance of unused tanks

1471. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Third Minor Irrigation Census (2000-01) has mentioned that about 85,000 tanks and other storages are not in use, predominantly due to situation and other factors like of maintenance, encroachment etc.;

(b) if so, what is the estimate of Government regarding the quantum of loss of water per year;

(c) whether Government have identified certain tanks etc. out of above 85,000 for desiltification;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the schemes proposed to be undertaken; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to improve the scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantum of loss of water per year is estimated by State Governments as water is a State subject.

(c) to (e) Government of India has sanctioned a pilot scheme "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January, 2005 with an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crores, to be implemented by States during the remaining period of Tenth Plan. The aims and the objectives of the scheme are to restore and augment storage capacities of water bodies and to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential. The water bodies having culturable Command Area of 40 ha. up to 2000 ha. are included under the Pilot Scheme in one or two districts in the State. Projects for restoration of water bodies have been approved in 24 districts of 14 States at an estimated cost of Rs. 296.87 crore. These district projects cover 1076 water bodies.

Disputes on dam safety

1472. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute between States on the strength of dam to store the water;